

REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1954

Issued by the Deputy Government Statistician (Mr. C. R. Muirson), Perth,  
1st November, 1954

This report gives particulars relative to the following items:-

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POPULATION ESTIMATES

Preliminary Census Field Count

Whole State at 30th June, 1954 -

Males - 330,267

Females - 309,361

Persons - 639,628

Metropolitan Area at 30th June, 1954 -

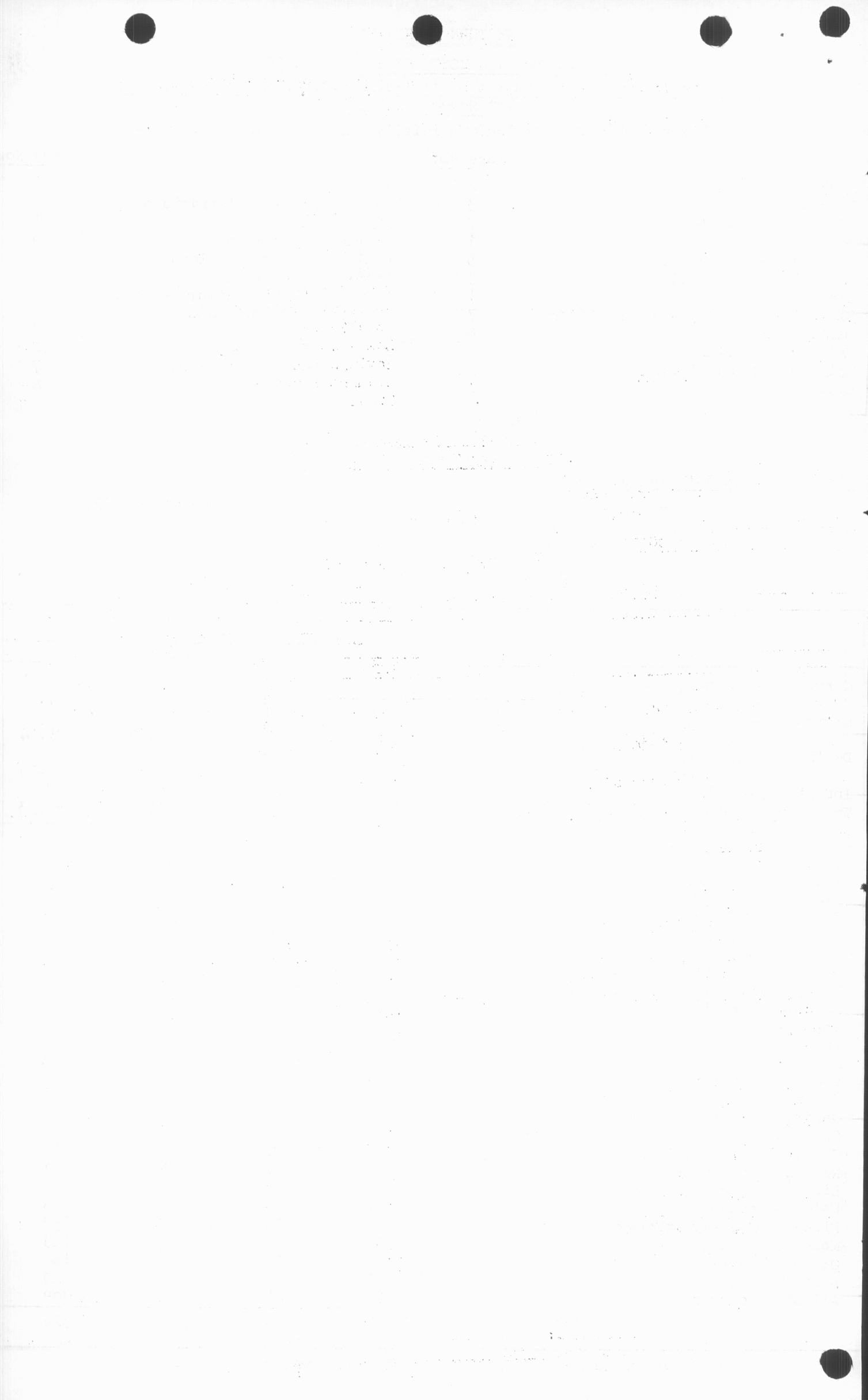
Persons - 348,500

MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS - WESTERN AUSTRALIA

	AUGUST		8 Months Ended AUGUST	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
Marriages - Number	332	330	3,430	3,258
* Rate per 1000 of Population	6.09	6.22	8.07	7.89
Births - Number	1,328	1,229	10,369	10,541
* Rate per 1000 of Population	24.36	23.16	24.40	25.54
Deaths - Number	556	459	3,537	3,326
* Rate per 1000 of Population	10.20	8.65	8.32	8.06
Infant - Number	35	28	221	267
Mortality X Rate per 1000 Live Births	26.36	22.78	21.31	25.33
PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH -				
Tuberculosis	4	2	36	35
Malignant neoplasms	73	53	519	487
Diabetes mellitus	9	2	33	23
Diseases of blood, etc.	-	-	13	9
Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	66	56	397	367
Diseases of the heart	176	155	1,124	1,027
Hypertension with heart disease	11	23	99	108
Hypertensive disease without mention of heart	12	6	58	51
Arteriosclerosis	12	15	99	112
Influenza	10	1	17	7
Pneumonia	17	27	109	137
Bronchitis	13	5	30	30
Other respiratory disease	9	5	41	29
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	5	36	28
Gastro-enteritis and colitis	1	1	18	16
Chronic enteritis and ulcerative colitis	-	-	5	4
Cirrhosis of the liver	1	4	11	16
Nephritis and nephrosis	9	4	54	50
Diseases of the prostate	4	6	36	32
Maternal causes	1	-	6	5
Disease of early infancy	25	15	146	158
Motor Vehicle accidents	16	16	109	123
Other accidents	20	15	140	134
Suicide	8	2	47	29
All other causes	56	41	354	309
Total:	556	459	3,537	3,326

\* Equivalent Annual Rate.

X Deaths under one year.



# LAND SETTLEMENT

Land taken up under conditional alienation during the nine months ended September, 1954, totalled 842,067 acres, a decrease of 526,409 acres on the corresponding period last year. Pastoral, special and miscellaneous leases registered amounted to 4,917,886 acres, an increase of 2,658,745.

## STATE GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

	Month of September		Three Months Ended September	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
Revenue	£. 3,662,568	£. 3,309,194	£. 10,643,854	£. 9,512,321
Revenue per Head of Population	£5. 13. 9	£5. 5. 6	£16. 11. 7	£15. 4. 6
Expenditure	3,658,411	3,371,707	10,981,981	10,302,508
Expenditure per Head of Population	£5.13. 7	£5. 7. 6	£17. 2. 1	£16. 9.10

## SAVINGS BANKS

Depositors' Balances on the 30th September, 1954, amounted to £53,064,883 or £82.8.0 per head of population as against £50,993,177 or £81.5.6d per head as at the 30th September last year.

## BANK CLEARANCES

The average weekly clearance for the 5 weeks ended 29th September, 1954, amounted to £13,085,876 compared with £12,074,707 for the corresponding period last year.

## REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

Registrations effected at the Office of Land Titles and Deeds		September		3 Months ended September	
		1954	1953	1954	1953
Transfers	No.	2,154	1,945	6,653	6,052
	£.	3,305,799	2,705,372	10,010,820	7,710,351
Mortgages	No.	1,671	1,739	5,307	5,208
	£.	2,774,831	2,626,243	9,454,976	8,048,898
Discharges of Mortgages	No.	1,146	1,108	3,457	3,471

## SALES TAX: SALES OF TAXABLE AND EXEMPT GOODS AND TAX COLLECTED

Period of Receipt of Returns	Taxable Goods		Sales of Exempt Goods	Tax Collected
	Sales in respect of which Tax is Payable (Net)	Sales in respect of which Tax is NOT Payable (Gross)		
	£.	£.	£.	£.
SEPTEMBER, 1954	3,337,089	2,133,078	9,650,985	477,917
SEPTEMBER, 1953	2,526,628	1,421,854	6,369,996	417,813
Three months ended SEPTEMBER, 1954	10,747,100	6,037,527	26,777,759	1,411,905
Three months ended SEPTEMBER, 1953	8,784,613	5,629,794	21,836,477	1,355,880





COMPANIES REGISTERED

61 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £12,497,500 and 25 Foreign Companies were registered during the three months ended September, 1954. Registrations for the corresponding period last year comprised 43 Local Companies with a nominal capital of £2,107,503 and 17 Foreign Companies.

BANKRUPTCY

	Three months ended September					
	1954			1953		
	No.	Liabilities	Assets	No.	Liabilities	Assets
		£.	£.		£.	£.
Sequestration Orders	14	15,233	4,283	10	45,102	38,619
Deeds of Assignment (a)	6	31,153	40,389	7	15,812	18,688
Deeds of Arrangement	-	-	-	-	-	-

(a) Includes Compositions and Schemes of Arrangement.

TRANSPORT

The operations of the State Government Railways, open for General and Passenger traffic, were as follows:-

	AUGUST		Two Months ended AUGUST	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
Gross Earnings (a) * £.	996,600	741,200	1,981,200	1,507,200
Working Expenses (a) £.	1,149,190	1,069,387	2,332,474	2,191,393
Train Miles Run No.	613,722	564,955	1,232,409	1,151,718
Motor Bus Miles Run No.	(b) 127,214	(b) 162,525	(c) 238,071	(c) 295,399
<u>Passenger Journeys -</u>				
Train No.	608,218	640,346	1,264,790	1,249,801
Motor Bus No.	34,156	56,071	59,062	101,675
<u>Tonnage Carried -</u>				
Paying Goods	259,275	227,261	522,859	481,036
Livestock	10,327	8,813	18,111	17,965
Departmental (Free Freight)	81,834	61,334	156,145	127,004
<u>Total:</u>	351,436	297,408	697,115	626,005
<u>Net Ton Mileage of -</u>				
Paying Goods	42,244,629	38,071,089	87,067,077	81,539,348
Livestock	1,475,999	1,317,636	2,619,074	2,476,539
Departmental (Free Freight)	10,296,700	9,309,593	19,779,790	18,781,997
<u>Total:</u>	54,017,328	48,698,318	109,465,941	102,797,884

(a) Includes operations of the Railway Road Service.

(b) Four weeks ended 21st August.

(c) Period ended 21st August.

\* Figures liable to revision.



MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATIONS

(1) NEW VEHICLES REGISTERED (EXCLUDING COMMONWEALTH-OWNED VEHICLES)

	METROPOLITAN AREA				ENTIRE STATE			
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Year 1951	4,263	2,088	51	1,886	7,914	5,730	101	3,192
Year 1952	4,088	2,006	74	1,121	8,068	5,471	112	1,939
Year 1953	4,460	1,869	57	746	8,152	5,015	76	1,239
1954 -								
January	384	126	11	68	669	337	13	108
February	409	191	5	66	724	461	8	102
March	405	176	3	70	724	476	4	113
April	516	166	7	77	907	453	9	129
May	538	190	-	47	951	500	4	91
June	594	227	-	42	1,086	528	4	89
July	638	253	-	40	1,169	584	3	90
August	628	248	-	61	1,117	576	3	106

(2) MOTOR VEHICLES IN USE (EFFECTIVE REGISTRATIONS) /

Date (as at end of Month)	METROPOLITAN AREA				ENTIRE STATE			
	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans, Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles	Cars (including Hire Cars)	Wagons, Vans Utilities	Buses	Motor Cycles
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1952 -								
June	37,873	16,368	522	9,952	64,180	50,897	988	16,041
1953 -								
June	41,231	18,394	537	9,855	69,833	54,639	1,035	15,559
December	44,513	19,429	567	9,817	73,825	55,782	1,071	15,022
1954 -								
January	44,889	19,556	577	9,798	73,329	54,141	1,022	14,345
February	45,135	19,687	583	9,787	74,505	55,735	1,086	14,727
March	45,339	19,726	585	9,757	75,443	56,628	1,093	14,963
April	45,790	19,862	591	9,767	76,142	56,760	1,099	14,892
May	46,097	19,929	591	9,685	77,335	57,764	1,106	15,041
June	47,819	20,400	593	9,692	78,217	58,471	1,117	15,237
July	49,202	20,959	592	9,744	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
August	49,904	21,159	592	9,733	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)

/ Excluding Commonwealth-Owned Vehicles which comprised for August, 1954:-

95 Cars: 788 Wagons, Vans, etc. 7 Buses and 6 Motor Cycles.

(a) Not yet available.

TRADE (INTERSTATE AND OVERSEA)

Trade of Western Australia, August, 1954 and 1953, and two months ended August, 1954 and 1953, expressed in terms of Australian Currency:-

	IMPORTS				EXPORTS (Including Ships' Stores)			
	AUGUST		2 Months ended AUGUST		AUGUST		2 Months ended AUGUST	
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
Oversea	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000	£,000
Interstate	4,584	2,710	9,028	6,631	3,969	3,191	7,655	8,499
	7,929	7,025	15,242	13,774	798	2,044	2,285	4,208
Total:	12,513	9,735	24,270	20,405	4,767	5,235	9,940	12,707



BUILDING ACTIVITY

(1) NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED

Period	Dwellings				Factories		Other		Total	
	Owner-Built		By Contractors etc. (a)		No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value
	No.	Value	No.	Value						
		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000
Year 1946	55	32	1,316	1,221	52	82	145	192	1,568	1,527
Year 1947	165	109	2,245	2,380	37	64	164	327	2,611	2,880
Year 1948	514	346	2,544	3,041	49	160	268	431	3,375	3,978
Year 1949	825	693	2,485	3,476	57	215	317	657	3,684	5,041
Year 1950	1,313	1,365	3,331	4,727	41	263	428	651	5,113	7,006
Year 1951	1,913	2,835	4,137	6,969	40	459	433	986	6,523	11,249
Year 1952	2,883	5,824	4,946	11,201	63	667	604	2,424	8,496	19,934
Year 1953	2,988	7,219	4,839	12,624	84	817	714	3,657	8,625	24,317
1954 -										
March Qr.	715	1,827	944	2,491	22	313	163	990	1,844	5,621
June Qr.	828	2,224	1,195	3,123	22	192	187	1,043	2,232	6,582

(a) Comprises Government Day Labour as well as Private Contractor operations, and includes Shop Dwellings, Flats and other Residentials excluded from Table (2) hereunder.

(2) HOUSE CONSTRUCTION  
(Including Owner-Built Homes)

	Houses Completed - Classified According to Materials of Outer Walls									
	Brick, Stone, Concrete, etc.		Wood, or Mainly Wood		Fibro-Cement or mainly Fibro-Cement		Other		Total	
	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value	No.	Value
		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000		£,000
Year 1946	578	640	186	140	373	296	227	172	1,364	1,248
Year 1947	1,114	1,365	257	196	966	862	62	47	2,399	2,470
Year 1948	1,252	1,715	326	249	1,436	1,348	29	22	3,043	3,334
Year 1949	1,449	2,235	228	191	1,571	1,649	42	43	3,290	4,118
Year 1950	1,709	2,882	337	311	2,262	2,572	55	48	4,363	5,813
Year 1951	2,155	4,560	453	525	2,933	4,241	190	218	5,731	9,544
Year 1952	3,006	8,097	745	1,609	3,844	6,678	135	263	7,730	16,647
Year 1953	2,676	8,417	976	2,657	3,966	8,277	24	54	7,642	19,405
1954 -										
March Qr.	568	1,895	82	215	970	2,115	1	1	1,621	4,226
June Qr.	731	2,463	44	107	1,199	2,631	1	1	1,975	5,202

GOLD PRODUCTION

	SEPTEMBER		9 Months Ended SEPTEMBER	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
Quantity Fine ozs.	80,539	70,247	650,444	612,730
Value (Aust. Currency) * £.	1,258,428	1,088,240	10,123,285	9,492,195

\* Excludes premium on gold sold for industrial purposes.

Dividends reported by Gold Mining Companies for the nine months ended September, 1954, amounted to £968,699. Dividends for the corresponding period of 1953 were £666,180.



# RETAIL PRICES INDEX NUMBERS

(Base of Each Series: Weighted Average of Six Capitals for 1923/27 = 1000)

	Food and Groceries				"C" Series			
	SEPTEMBER QUARTER		Twelve Months Ended SEPTEMBER		SEPTEMBER QUARTER		Twelve Months Ended SEPTEMBER	
	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953	1954	1953
Metropolitan Area	2,848	2,690	2,767	2,554	2,512	2,328	2,412	2,273
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	2,936	2,759	2,866	2,706	2,435	2,369	2,409	2,349
Northam	2,865	2,672	2,772	2,590	2,441	2,336	2,383	2,295
Bunbury	2,881	2,689	2,805	2,585	2,498	2,338	2,405	2,292
Geraldton	2,923	2,734	2,840	2,648	2,648	2,433	2,530	2,399
Collie	2,906	2,728	2,835	2,614	2,322	2,233	2,280	2,187

## ESTIMATED TOTAL EMPLOYMENT

(Excluding Rural and Private Domestic)

Figures supplied by Commonwealth Statistician

Month	1953			1954		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
January	127,573	39,805	167,378	133,021	41,620	174,641
February	128,682	40,835	169,517	133,165	42,375	175,540
March	129,232	41,012	170,244	133,924	42,595	176,519
April	129,666	41,211	170,877	133,517	42,811	176,328
May	129,673	41,189	170,862	134,347	42,768	177,115
June	130,185	41,029	171,214	134,969	42,685	177,754
July	130,540	41,132	171,672	134,232	42,947	177,179
August	130,351	41,296	171,647	134,960	42,933	177,893
September	130,899	41,443	172,342			
October	131,392	41,824	173,216			
November	131,948	42,192	174,140			
December	132,572	42,634	175,206			

## INDEX OF FACTORY EMPLOYMENT (a)

Month	FACTORIES (Base: 1928/29 (19,799 Employees = 100))				
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
January	194	208	214	213	223
February	197	212	216	217	223
March	200	215	216	220	225
April	200	215	215	221	224
May	203	216	214	222	224
June	202	215	211	220	226
July	204	218	211	220	225
August	204	217	212	220	225
September	204	216	211	220	
October	206	217	212	221	
November	207	217	213	222	
December	207	215	213	223	

(a) Figures subsequent to June, 1953, are preliminary.





STATE BASIC WAGE

Date of Operation	Metropolitan Area			South-West Land Division			Goldfields and Rest of State		
	Male		Female	Male		Female	Male		Female
	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
27/7/53	12.	6.	6.	8.	0.	3	12.	6.	0
							7.	19.	11
							12.	9.	4.
							3.	2.	1

ELECTRICITY SUPPLY - METROPOLITAN AREA

(Generated by W.A. Government Power Stations)

Particulars	SEPTEMBER		Three months ended SEPTEMBER	
	1954	1953	1954	1953
Units Generated (1000 K.W.H.)	35,600	31,305	112,171	99,093
Units Sent Out (1000 K.W.H.)	31,847	27,982	100,166	88,571

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS IN PRINCIPAL ESTABLISHMENTS

Period	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
September, 1954	8,497	562	141,679	14,186
September, 1953	6,636	530	118,392	8,120
3 Months ended September, 1954	42,155	1,396	279,687	39,397
3 Months ended September, 1953	38,924	1,642	245,747	24,383

ROAD TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

(Note - Excludes non-casualty accidents where damage was estimated to be £10 or less)

Period	Non-Casualty Accidents (Damage over £10)		Casualty Accidents		Total Accidents Reported		Persons Killed		Persons Injured	
	Metro-politan	Coun-try	Metro-politan	Coun-try	Metro-politan	Coun-try	Metro-politan	Coun-try	Metro-politan	Coun-try
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Year 1953	4,074	1,463	2,024	882	6,098	2,345	99	93	2,430	1,234
Year 1954										
January	312	139	168	62	480	201	5	6	231	100
February	303	120	175	63	478	183	10	8	222	99
March	333	106	206	97	539	203	4	9	263	132
April	386	157	226	79	612	236	6	6	265	117
May	461	156	216	68	677	224	11	5	272	94
June	433	140	220	65	653	205	13	3	265	91
July (a)	498	166	220	89	718	255	9	6	287	137
August	430	191	204	61	634	252	10	9	249	91
Total 8 Months Ended August, 1954	3,156	1,175	1,635	584	4,791	1,759	68	52	2,054	861

(a) Revised



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ITEMS OF FACTORY PRODUCTION (SUBJECT TO REVISION)

Item	Unit	SEPTEMBER		3 Months Ended SEPTEMBER	
		1953	1954	1953	1954
<u>Building Materials, etc.</u>					
Bath Heaters - solid fuel	no.	961	773	2,488	2,628
Bricks (in terms of standard size) - Cement	'000	651	1,245	2,027	3,414
- Clay	'000	8,011	8,914	21,534	26,356
Cement, Portland	ton	11,250	12,400	33,075	36,150
Enamels	gal.	6,194	3,387	11,483	10,757
Fibrous Plaster Sheets	'000 sq.yds	194	209	592	627
Paints (read Mixed) Ex- cluding Water Paints	gal.	13,735	14,968	33,542	56,346
Tiles, roofing - Cement	'000	847	988	2,811	2,904
Timber, Sawn	'000 sup.ft	(a)17,854	(a)18,929	(b)37,560	(b)38,204
<u>Clothing</u>					
Cardigans and Pullovers	doz.	697	577	2,491	2,546
Raincoats (inc. Oilskins)					
Men's and Boys'	no.	2,856	3,463	6,447	7,575
Shirts (all types) Men's and Boys'	doz.	5,014	4,886	13,373	15,019
Sports Coats Men's	no.	1,044	998	2,421	2,302
Suits - Men's - 3 piece	no.	383	448	1,792	1,222
- 2 piece	no.	2,277	2,434	6,568	7,248
Trousers - Men's - Sport	no.	5,055	5,710	15,289	16,171
- Work (Cotton and Wool)	no.	9,767	14,770	32,980	45,381
<u>Footwear</u>					
Boots and Shoes (all types)	pair	47,901	32,091	137,421	108,598
Sandals	pair	22,986	23,603	38,449	41,582
Slippers	pair	54,773	38,717	168,322	137,858
<u>Food</u>					
Bacon and Ham	'000 lb.	607	652	1,752	1,836
Breakfast Foods - Prepared	cwt.	3,160	3,550	9,251	8,957
Butter	'000 lb.	1,878	2,295	4,551	5,634
Cheese	'000 lb.	362	360	807	1,090
Confectionery (not chocolate)	'000 lb.	295	364	842	1,038
Jams	'000 lb.	114	45	298	181
Margarine	'000 lb.	39	146	320	338
Oatmeal	cwt.	6,176	2,056	23,646	9,011
Sauce - Tomato	pint	54,887	67,782	150,837	159,388
<u>Miscellaneous</u>					
Acids - Hydrochloric	cwt.	142	133	349	347
- Nitric	cwt.	14	16	44	48
- Sulphuric	ton	15,074	10,922	39,455	30,955
Cycles, Pedal	no.	762	646	1,868	1,709
Gas Produced	million cu. ft.	122,413	125,064	384,773	398,314
Mattresses - Inner Spring	no.	1,455	1,959	4,415	5,737
- Woven Wire	no.	2,593	1,444	7,477	5,637
- Soft Filled	no.	3,709	3,572	11,177	10,846
Motor Vehicle Bodies -					
- Truck Trays	no.	96	81	246	269
- Utilities (all types)	no.	17	33	48	99
- Trailers (all types)	no.	15	16	31	48
Perambulators	no.	90	65	270	207

(a) August Figures. September not available.

(b) Two months ended August.

